Import of Wheat

1415. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the total stocks of foodgrains (Rice, Wheat and;Coarse grains) with the public agencies as on date ;

(b) whether Government have since actually imported one million tonnes of wheat as per its recent decision ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along-with the price- and source of purchase thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) The stocks of foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) with the public agencies as on 1-4-92 are estimated at 12.1 million tonnes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of wheat

1416. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI :

SHRI S. MADHAVAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had floated global tenders for the purchase of one million tonnes of wheat from the open market;

(b) what is the number of applications/ proposals received by Government for the import of wheat and whether all the applicants are Indian if so, what is the number of Indian applicants;

(c) if not, what is the number of Non resident Indians ; and

(d) whether Government have laid down any norms to consider applications from Indian and NRIs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) The Government invited global open tenders in March, 1992 for import of wheat.

(b) There was no offer from any Indian firm among the 24 offers received.

(c) One.

(d) No, Sir.

Procurement of wheat

1417. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that procure ment of freshly harvested wheat by the HC1 and other official agencies is not likeiy to achieve the target;

(b) if so, by what percentage the Wheat procurement by the FCI is likely to fall short of'the target;

(c) what are the reasons therefor;

(d) the estimated wheat stocks with the FCI after the procurement of freshly-harvested wheat; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to meet the gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) As the procurement of wheat by FCI and State Procuring Agencies is based only under minimum price support operations on a voluntary basis, it is not really possible to fix any procurement target.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) As the procurement operations are still on, it is not possible to estimate wheat stock with the FCI after procurment of freshly harvested wheat is over.

(e) The stock position of foodgrains in the Central Pool is kept under constant re-view and appropriate measures are taken as and when considered necessary.